

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W  
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R 141635Z MAY 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0186

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1946

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: ETRD CS  
SUBJECT: BRIBE ATTEMPTS OF BANANA COMPANIES

1. DURING MEETING WITH ME MAY 13, PRESIDENT ODUBER SAID THAT DURING LAST FEW WEEKS STANDARD FRUIT OFFICIALS IN COSTA RICA HAD MADE WHAT WAS CLEARLY AN ATTEMPT TO BRIBE HIM WITH AN OFFER OF SHARES UP TO \$3 MILLION. HE SAID THAT THE OFFER HAD, OF COURSE, BEEN FLATLY REFUSED BY THE LAWYER WITH WHOM THE STANDARD OFFICIALS WERE IN TOUCH. IN FACT, IT WAS PARTLY IN REACTION THAT HE IMPOSED THE NEW TAX ON BANANAS SO THAT THE BANANA COMPANIES WOULD HAVE NO REASON TO ATTEMPT ANY FURTHER BRIBES.

2. ODUBER ALSO SAID HE HAD BEEN RELIABLY INFORMED THAT DEL MONTE HAD "BOUGHT" SOME GUATEMALAN LEGISLATORS. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME ATTEMPTS AT A SIMILAR ACTION WITH COSTA RICA CONGRESSMEN, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER OR NOT THEY WERE SUCCESSFUL.

3. ODUBER SAID THAT FACIO WAS AWARE OF THE STANDARD ATTEMPT AND WOULD BE INFORMING ASST. SECRETARY ROGERS IN WASHINGTON. HE WAS INFORMING ME ALSO IN THE HOPE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD SPEAK TO THE VARIOUS COMPANIES AND TRY TO GET THEM TO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS NO LONGER THE WAY TO DO BUSINESS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THAT IRREGULAR  
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ACTIVITIES CAN ONLY HARM THEM AND THE U.S. IN THE AREA.

TODMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BRIBERY, BANANAS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BUSINESS FIRMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SANJO01946  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750169-0883  
**From:** SAN JOSE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750553/aaaabvvs.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BRIBE ATTEMPTS OF BANANA COMPANIES  
**TAGS:** ETRD, CS, STANDARD FRUIT, DEL MONTE, (ODUBER QUIROS, DANIEL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006